

**UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE
TONTONATIONAL FOREST
PAYSON RANGER DISTRICT**

WATER WHEEL PUBLIC SAFETY CLOSURE ORDER

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to Title 36 CFR 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the areas, roads, and trails described in this order, all within the Payson Ranger District of the Tonto National Forest, Arizona; effective September 14, 2009, until rescinded.

1. Going into or being upon the area described in the Order. 36 CFR 261.53(e)
2. Being on a road. 36 CFR 261.54(e)

EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50 (e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Persons engaged in a business, trade, or occupation in the area, who are authorized by the US Forest Service, the State of Arizona, or the County of Gila, its employees, agents, contractors and subcontractors.
4. Persons traveling on Forest Designated Road 199 provided that they do not stop or stand on the roadway. Persons traveling on Forest Designated Road 420.

AREA DESCRIBED

All National Forest System lands, roads and trails within 1000 feet south of the Water Wheel recreation site, extending north one mile; ending 1000 feet north of the Second Crossing recreation site including ¼ mile on the east and west side of Forest Designated Road 199.

PURPOSE

To provide for the public's health and safety in consideration of the intense wildland fire activity that occurred associated with the Water Wheel Incident, Tonto National Forests.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. A USFS Law Enforcement Officer will assist in implementation of the Order and to serve as liaison with Gila County Sheriff's Departments.
2. This Order will be effected by appropriate signs and closure notices as required by 36 CFR 261.50.

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3. Violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. [16 USC 551, 18 USC 3571(b) (6), 18 USC 3581(b) (7)].

Dated this 14TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2009, at PHOENIX, Arizona.



/s/ Gene Blankenbaker

**GENE BLANKENBAKER
Forest Supervisor
Tonto National Forest**

Water Wheel Public Safety Closure Order

Order Number: 12-09-242R

